

*B1* *Amended*  
claimed in claim 3 or 4], on the downstream side of a desulfurization apparatus based on the lime-gypsum method.

Please add the following new claims:

*A2*  
20. The process of claim 6, wherein said heat-treating comprises heating at a temperature of 600 to 1,200° C in a non-oxidizing atmosphere.

*Sub B2*  
21. The process of claim 6, wherein said starting active carbon fiber is a polyacrylonitrile-based or pitch-based starting active carbon fiber.

22. The process of claim 7, wherein said starting active carbon fiber is a polyacrylonitrile-based or pitch-based starting active carbon fiber.